

CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

City Council Meeting

Monday, January 4, 2021

Remote Web Meeting via ZOOM

6:30 p.m.

Call to Order	Mayor Manier called the regular meeting of Monday, January 4, 2021 to order at 6:30 p.m. in a remote meeting from Washington City Hall.
Roll Call	Present and answering roll call were Aldermen Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Dingledine, Stevens and Yoder.
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Manier requested that we remember all those who have recently lost their lives as all present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.
Agenda Review	The Agenda was reviewed and stood as presented.
Approve Consent Agenda	Mayor Manier presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items: Approval of minutes of December 21, 2020 Regular Council and the Holland Street Pay Request #4. Alderman Brownfield moved and Alderman Cobb seconded to accept the Consent Agenda. On roll call on the motion to approve was: <u>Ayes: 8</u> Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Dingledine*, Stevens, Yoder <u>Nays: 0</u> <u>Motion declared carried.</u> <i>* It is noted that a technical issue resulted in the remote attendance loss of Alderman Dingledine. (see information below)</i>
Announcements and Proclamations	None at this time.
Audience Comments	City Clerk Brod shared that a communication was sent to City Hall that was deemed not relevant for Public Comment. In lieu of reading the communication aloud, Ms. Brod emailed it to Council and Staff for their further review and will place a hardcopy in the meeting file at City Hall for future reference.
Standing Committee-Finance & Personnel Committee	Chairman Daniel Cobb, Finance & Personnel Committee, shared that there are no agenda items to present to Council.
Standing Committee-Public Safety Committee	Chairman Brian Butler, Public Safety Committee, shared that there is a first reading of an ordinance concerning the waiting period for gaming licenses from two year, to one year. Alderman Butler introduced Police Chief McCoy to share updates. Chief McCoy stated that the Fire Department delivered the signed copy of the new contract to Northern Tazewell. He also shared a report that the Fire Department received 196 calls in December which breaks the previous record of 176 calls. There have been 1,795 calls in 2020 which is about 50 more calls than 2019. He went on to share that

Washington Fire Department has taken possession of the Northern Tazewell GMC ambulance which will become Washington Fire Department Medic #4 and will be fully ALS by February 1, 2021. Chief McCoy closed his comments by reminding all that there were 307 police lives lost in the line of duty in 2020.

Standing Committee-
Public Works
Committee

Chairman Mike Brownfield, Public Works Committee, invited Public Works Director, Kevin Schone to provide information regarding the response to the weekend ice and snow storm. Mr. Schone shared that there were 288 overtime hours by City employees and used 93 tons of product on snow and ice. Mr. Schone thanked Council and staff for the recognition for the hard work and recognized the City workers for doing a good job during a holiday weekend. Mr. Schone continued to provide other updates which included details about the brush pick up. The brush pick up will occur near beginning of February because it takes a little time to get the trucks adjusted from a snow fighting machine to hauling machine. This also gives homeowners time to get items cleaned up and put at the curb. Homeowners can also use the biannual brush pick up for additional brush pick up if needed. Mayor Manier asked Alderman Brownfield for details regarding the length and size of the brush intended to be picked up. Mr. Schone provided that pieces should be kept to about six inches in diameter and a length that can fit into the back of truck and that there will be more determinations made when the City reaches the properties.

Mr. Schone shared that he met with EPA officials and had a JULIE locate at the previously known Washington Christian Village. There, they had discovered what they thought was a small diesel leak. Mr. Schone met with officials and noticed an oil sheen on the creek at the bridge where the high school property meets the park district property. Two City employees met with EPA officials and walked the creek and placed booms to catch any diesel. Mr. Schone visited the creek near Lincoln and believes there was a smell of diesel as well. They noted that the nursing will be responsible for cleanup of the catch basin and creek.

Alderman Brownfield introduced City Engineer, Dennis Carr who provided that most projects are currently on hold and city crews are concentrating on snow removal. Mr. Carr shared that they are working to finish up MFT projects for IDOT's review if it is approved by Council.

Alderman Brownfield introduced Planning and Zoning Director, Jon Oliphant who shared that the Beck Oil project continues to move forward and due to good weather, they have been able to get a lot of site work completed. They are shooting for May 1, 2021 for grand opening. Mr. Oliphant also shared that Sunrise roofing is almost complete with their building and Faire Coffee opened up.

Alderman Stevens asked Mr. Oliphant how many applicants have applied and received money for the DCEO Grant. Mr. Oliphant clarified that the deadline was December 23rd with distribution of January 31st. Mr. Oliphant shared that the City received eight applications, four were complete and submitted by the 23rd, one was complete and submitted on December 30th. The five will be funded while the remaining three did not contain a complete application.

**correcting electronic
attendance issue*

It is noted that Alderman Dingledine resolved the technical issue and rejoined the meeting to provide input.

**Clerk Brod provided the final request to approve the Consent Agenda. The final votes are noted above under "Consent Agenda"*

Mayor	Mayor Gary Manier thanked City crews who worked hard during storm clean up, especially during a holiday weekend. He also thanked AMEREN for working hard throughout the region and continues to help people experiencing outages around the area. Alderman Stevens asked Mayor Manier about the outage that is currently occurring. Mayor Manier explained that Ameren looks at a grid and knows immediately if there is an outage. They then send trucks to that area.
City Administrator	City Administrator, Ray Forsythe shared the following Resolutions and Ordinances.
Resolution: <i>Item A</i>	The reading of the following resolution, by title and brief synopsis: A Resolution Agreement with Civic ArtWorks for Planning Services for the Washington Comprehensive Plan. Alderman Brownfield moved and Alderman Stevens seconded to approve. Alderman Stevens provided the comment that the plan looks impressive, however, the City's actions are only on authorizing the resolution and voting on the final document. Alderman Stevens stated that she does not see where there is input from the Planning and Zoning Commission and wants to know if Aldermen will be involved and will they be updated. She also asked for the relevance of referring to the Bicentennial which occurs after the plan is done. Mr. Oliphant stated that we can give more thought to public engagement with the intention to have a very broad network of involvement made of boards, Council, Planning and Zoning and others both in and outside the City. He stated that the more input, the better. Mr. Oliphant went on to share that the City looked at 15 months because the grant agreement requires the project to wrap up by September 30, 2022. He went on to share that with regards to bicentennial, when the proposal was submitted, it was noted the Bicentennial coming up. Alderman Stevens stated that the plan didn't list all the stakeholders. Mr. Oliphant confirmed that a variety of entities are involved including obvious groups such as Council and committees as well as IDOT and others. This is likely to have a steering committee made up of people with different interests. Alderman Cobb noted that there is a force majeure clause specifically referring to a pandemic and wondered if this is a concern. Mr. Forsythe shared that the attorney reviewed the contract before it was brought it to Council and this was addressed in the interview process and doesn't foresee it as an issue. On roll call the vote was: <u>Ayes: 8</u> Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Dingledine, Stevens, Yoder <u>Nays: 0</u> <u>Motion declared carried.</u>
Resolution: <i>Item B</i>	City Administrator Forsythe provided the following resolution, by title and brief synopsis: A Resolution Updating the Construction Standards for the City of Washington. Alderman Brownfield moved and Alderman Cobb seconded to approve. Alderman Brownfield stated that he appreciates all the work the Mr. Carr, Mr.Schone and Mr. Fuller put into this resolution.

On roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 8 Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Dingledine, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

Resolution:
Item C

City Administrator Forsythe provided the following resolution, by title and brief synopsis: A Resolution Approving the Use of Motor Fuel Tax Funds Required for Consideration by IDOT.

Alderman Cobb moved and Alderman Stevens seconded to approve.

On roll call the vote was:

Ayes: 8 Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Cobb, Dingledine, Stevens, Yoder

Nays: 0

Motion declared carried.

1st reading ords,
Item A

City Administrator Forsythe provided the first reading of the following ordinances, by title and brief synopsis: An ordinance approving the participation in a Regional Planimetrics Project.

1st reading ords,
Item B

City Administrator Forsythe provided the first reading of the following ordinances, by title and brief synopsis: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 136 of the Code of Ordinances Entitled "Gambling Offences"

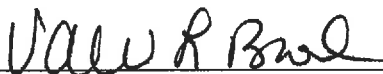
Alderman's
Comments:

Alderman Stevens asked if there is an intergovernmental agreement with township and the park district for use of equipment and is there a way that the city could use them for the brush equipment. Mayor Manier stated that the township trucks are also equipped for snow removal and asked for Mr. Schone's input. Mr. Schone provided that we can ask but he does not know if they would allow it, due to the amount it would take to remove snow removal equipment and put it back on. Mr. Schone shared that we might ask to use the chipper and that he will reach out to them.

Adjournment:

At 7:01 p.m. Alderman Adams moved and Alderman Cobb seconded to move.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.



Valeri Brod, City Clerk